

FOCH WILL CANDIDLY PLEAD FRENCH CASE AT PARLEY ON ARMS

Not Likely to Recede Even if He Fails to Please Americans, Says Gibbs.

CAN'T FORGET GERMANS

Europe, in Marshal's Belief, Will Not Be Freed From Menace of War.

HE WILL DEMAND SAFETY

Must Be Convinced That Satisfaction Is on Economic and Commercial Lines.

By SIR PHILIP GIBBS.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. LONDON, Oct. 15.—The presence of Marshal Foch at the Washington conference for the limitation of armaments, which at present seems certain, should be of far greater importance than a mere ceremonial appearance, signifying the desire of official France to cooperate closely with the United States in shaping a world policy, provided French interests and security are not endangered.

When Marshal Foch speaks before the conference on the possibilities of disarmament or when he expresses his views in private conversations with American statesmen he will do so without diplomatic craft or subtlety, but with simple candor and without mental reservations. He will represent the French viewpoint as it is fixed in certain convictions and principles, and he will not budge one hairbreadth whether they please or displease American opinion.

His mind is as sharp as a sword, as finely tempered as a Toledo blade and as clean as steel, and his character has a fine simplicity which has no guile. But he is limited to certain lines of thought that are rather narrow. He sees the world policy from one angle of vision, which is the future safety of France from German aggression or revenge, and believes that what he gained by the sword may be held only by the sword.

Can't Forget German Change.

Foch has little faith in a German change of heart, and less perhaps in the possibility of any political or philosophical changes among European peoples likely to eliminate the menace of war. He is hard, practical and realistic in his outlook and he will not surrender anything that seems to him to be essential to the safety and power of France for vague idealistic dreams or ideals which to some of us seem the best, indeed the only, way to safety for France and all of us.

In his own country, like all great men, Marshal Foch has enemies and critics. They are mainly advanced democrats and liberals who believe that Marshal Foch used his influence to maintain the militaristic and reactionary policy of the French Government. I was startled and scandalized when a Frenchman said to me:

"Foch, my dear sir, has the soul of a grocer. He measures up life with a bit of string."

Credit Due to Foch.

For Foch as a soldier I have unbounded admiration, and if any one man may be said to have saved us all it was undoubtedly Marshal Foch, especially at that desperate and critical time when the full weight of the German offensive fell against the British lines with 143 divisions against forty-eight. Foch himself came to our lines, as I saw him then, cool and unruffled.

To Gen. Plumer, commanding the British Second Army, worn thin and hard pressed, he said:

"How many French divisions do you want?"

And when Plumer answered Foch wrote a note in a little pocketbook and handed it to Plumer. It was an I. O. U. for certain French divisions. There was no hesitation, no red tape, no grudging conditions, and for three days afterward the French roads were white with dust and blue with endless columns of marching poilus fulfilling that promise scribbled in Foch's notebook.

Foch skinned his own front to strengthen the British, though he knew that before long the German army would strike at him. When that attack happened he withdrew his blue men from the British lines with the same quickness of decision and lightninglike rapidity of action with a margin of only twenty-four hours between that movement and irretrievable defeat. At that time when the Germans had broken through the French front, Paris was threatened again and all of us were in deep gloom, Foch sat at his headquarters without a sign of nervous strain, though his nerves are sensitive.

Tells of Foch's Confidence.

An English statesman, Lord Milner, who was with him in the same house during the blackest hours, afterward told me the following anecdote.

Lord Milner could not resist asking Foch: "What do you think of the situation now?"

Foch was silent for some seconds.

FRENCH SECRET SERVICE FULL OF GERMAN AGENTS

Born in Alsace Men Choose French Nationality, but Continue to Work as Spies for Fatherland Political Police of Paris Believe.

Special Cable to THE NEW YORK HERALD. Copyright, 1921, by THE NEW YORK HERALD. New York Herald Bureau. Paris, Oct. 15.—

A complete reorganization of official services in Alsace-Lorraine is expected as a result of a sensational discovery in Strasbourg last week which revealed that Hugo Scherf, charged with an important position in the French espionage service, really was an agent of the German Government, although he had applied for French naturalization.

There is still some doubt regarding whether Scherf sold plans of the French political police to Berlin, but the fact that he escaped to Munich as soon as "certain" officers started an investigation concerning his operations is taken here as an acknowledgment of guilt.

Then he looked up and said quietly: "I cannot help pitying Ludendorff." Lord Milner was astounded and said: "Surely, you cannot mean that?"

"Yes," said Marshal Foch. "His job is more difficult than mine and I shall beat him."

That revealed the supreme courage, nerve and genius of this man, who has never been known to boast or utter a promise that he has not fulfilled. When on another critical day he said, "I guarantee Amiens," he seemed to be saying rash words. But Amiens did not fall.

As a soldier, therefore, Marshal Foch will go down in history as one of the world's foremost Generals. It is another thing with his statesmanship, but it is not his fault that he sees the policy of France through a soldier's eyes.

Superseding the Militarists.

There is another vision in France, fortunately, and that is from an economic and not from a military angle. More and more French economists are beginning to influence the French foreign policy, though they still have a hard struggle before them. Whereas the Foch school thinks that to keep Germany by the throat and shake her pockets is the most profitable policy, the economists in France have at last realized that strangulation and pocket shaking are not going to help France get her reparations or revive her trade.

An agreement has now been made between France and Germany by which the devastated regions will be rebuilt with German material and manufactured goods, which are to be counted as indemnity, instead of deliveries of German money, which throws the foreign exchange into convulsions. This is a distinct step forward in European recovery. It may even lead to the miracle of producing good relations between France and Germany based on common interests, and that would help matters enormously at the Washington conference if it could happen quickly.

But that is a miracle not to be expected by impatient folk. Apart from that, however, it does indicate a way to escape the present fears and dangers, for, as I have always repeated as a kind of religious creed, the political chaos of Europe can be straightened out only by economic sanity. Trade will never revive, hatreds will never die down until one nation learns that her own prosperity cannot be regained by ruining her neighbor and that we all are dependent on one another for raw material, markets and labor.

France Seeing More Clearly.

France has refused to recognize that natural law for the last three years. She believed in keeping Germany weary and desperate. That is the popular idea still in France, but the recent agreement between Louis Loucheur and Dr. Walter Rathenau shows a modification in the official policy at least as far as making use of German industry and labor for repayment is concerned.

Whatever her representative speaks for France at Washington, he will demand only one thing for his country with regard to limitation of armaments, and that is security. There is no belief in the French mind that Germany will remain with peaceful intent, and it must be admitted that it is not as a reproach but as a natural fact due to frightful memories that the French do not go out of their way to foster friendly feelings.

France therefore asks moral guarantees from America and Great Britain in case of a German attack before she will consent to turn her guns into ploughshares. From the United States there is no possibility of such a guaranty and from Great Britain there is not much chance either, owing to the present exhaustion of men and money.

There is only one way in which France may get a reasonable life insurance against future German aggression, and that is cooperation on economic lines and commercial arrangements between Germany and

The French political police believe that much of the anti-French propaganda in the recovered provinces has been supported by functionaries formerly in German employ, but who owing to the fact that they were born in Alsace-Lorraine, had the right to choose a new nationality. Scherf, always reputed to have been independently wealthy, refused to accept any compensation for the services he rendered the political police at Strasbourg.

The authorities now are investigating the report that Lieut. Krebs, who before the war caused the arrest of a Frenchman, Lieut. Lux, on a charge of espionage while studying Germany's Zeppelin projects, likewise has given up his German nationality and is now employed by the Allied Control Commission in Germany.

other Powers friendly to France which would lead to Germany's greater ruin if broken by war or revenge.

Since I last wrote the English people are awakening to a more immediate national interest in the possibilities of the Washington conference. This is partly due to intensive propaganda by leaflets and pamphlets issued to the working folk by various societies, the main object of which is the utter necessity for relief from armaments if Great Britain is to escape from disaster owing to her loss of trade and the creeping paralysis of unemployment.

Premier Lloyd George is preparing a big scheme for relief of the unemployed, but he does not hide the truth that all such attempts can be only temporary remedies and that no permanent improvement can happen until Europe recovers all around, thus restoring British markets. London is a gloomy city just now, with processions of the unemployed, street collections for ex-service men and beggars everywhere.

Meanwhile financial experts like Viscount Rothermere prophesy that the British income tax will soar still higher to eight and even ten shillings to the pound (40 to 50 per cent.). That is an appalling outlook for all of us at a time when men who used to be rich before the war are closing their houses and trying vainly to sell their old estates and when great employers of labor are borrowing to pay their taxes.

This financial crisis is having an effect on political problems. The necessity for peace and economy is the first thought of all British statesmen and that thought will introduce a spirit of concession at the Irish conference now taking place.

Peace with Ireland is an essential preliminary to the general peace policy of the British Empire and the most important item in our credentials to Washington. The Irish representatives also will not be able to ignore the economic side of good relations with Great Britain, which is still their chief market. A commercial boycott of Ireland would be ruinous.

My readers will, I think, agree that I do not hide the ugly facts by soft words and easy phrase making, but lest I should be regarded as a prophet of gloom I will finish this despatch by saying that though I see much that is tragic in the present state of affairs and in the deep seated disease of the world's economic state I believe firmly that we are getting back to sanity, are facing realities with more common sense and are gradually obtaining a new understanding of world problems which will lead presently to world recovery.

But we need patience and courage and truth to face the prejudice and foolish passions of national egotism. Above all we need men who will tell the truth at all risk of popular disfavour.

FIFTH AVENUE HOSPITAL FUND GETS \$100,000

Manville Brothers Aid Drive With Second Gift.

A subscription of \$100,000 from T. F. and H. E. Manville yesterday sent the campaign for the completion of the building fund of the new Fifth Avenue Hospital off with a flourish. Volunteer workers have started their work to secure the remainder of the \$750,000 that is needed to complete the first wardless hospital in the world.

The \$100,000 gift is not the first aid the Manville brothers have given to the hospital project. Last November they subscribed \$300,000 to the fund, endowing one of the four wings in the new institution.

ITALY'S SOCIALISTS IN BLOC.

Congress Votes Against Cooperation With Cabinet.

By the Associated Press. MILAN, Italy, Oct. 15.—The Italian Socialist Congress in session here has decided against collaboration with the Government by a vote of more than two to one.

The Socialist Deputies in the Chamber, in view of the vote of the congress, now will continue their policy of voting in the negative on Government measures in Parliament.

PERSHING TO HONOR A HERO OF BRITAIN

Will Start for London To-day to Present Congress Medal to British 'Unknown.'

PARIS, Oct. 15.—Gen. Pershing, Chief of Staff of the United States Army, will leave here to-morrow morning on a special car for Havre for the purpose of participating in the ceremony of presenting the Congressional Medal of Honor to Great Britain's "unknown warrior." He will be accompanied by only one aide and an orderly. He will return from England on board a destroyer, arriving in Havre Tuesday morning, and

driving by motor from that city to Paris.

Two important functions will be given in his honor here on Wednesday. The first will be a luncheon at the Maritime League, when a gold commemorative medal will be presented to him. Later a reception will be given at the City Hall. It will be attended by President Millerand, members of the Cabinet and many prominent residents of France. There will be an elaborate programme of entertainment, artists from the National Opera being engaged. Gen. Pershing will leave here for Cherbourg Thursday morning to go aboard the George Washington for his trip to America.

PLYMOUTH, England, Oct. 15.—A detachment of officers and men of the United States cruiser Olympia will represent the Navy at the ceremonies at Westminster Abbey Monday when the American Congressional Medal of Honor

is laid on the burial place of Britain's unknown soldier. The detachment will arrive in London to-morrow.

Rear Admiral Chandler and Capt. Wynne of the Olympia and Commander Gormley of the destroyer Sands were dinner guests to-night of Admiral Sir Montague E. Browning, Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty.

LONDON, Oct. 15.—Sir Auckland Geddes, British Ambassador to the United States, will lay the wreath of South African flowers upon the tomb of America's "unknown warrior." Arrangements have been made by the Government of the Union of South Africa for Sir Auckland to act on behalf of Premier J. C. Smuts and the people of his commonwealth. The wreath will bear the following inscription:

"America's unknown warrior. One with ours in the great comradeship of death, his sacrifice calls us to the great comradeship of the living."

"From the Government and people of the Union of South Africa." The date that the wreath will be taken to the National Cemetery at Arlington, Va., and laid on the tomb has not as yet been announced.

TAX REVOLT GROWS IN MEXICAN STATE

Two Deaths Already Reported at Puebla, Where 30,000 Join Protest Parade.

By the Associated Press.

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 15.—A desperate situation which already has cost two lives from violence is reported to-day at Puebla, where demonstrations against the State government's allegedly excessive tax law continue. A majority of the stores have been closed, the bread and milk supplies are said to be exhausted and food of all kinds is extremely scarce. Street cars are not running, according to reports, which add that incensed leaders hourly are exhorting shouting throngs to take aggressive action against the State government.

More than 20,000 persons are said to have held a mass meeting yesterday afternoon and later to have staged a parade. Their line of march was guarded by soldiers in trucks.

Travellers arriving here from Puebla assert the situation is almost anarchical, and that the police frequently are called upon to use their clubs and pistols. Other towns in the State of Puebla are becoming infected with the spirit of revolt, they declared, and numerous raids on markets and grocery stores are recorded. The syndicate of young students has taken active leadership in the aggression against the State government and is demanding the resignation of Gov. Sanchez. The Governor, however, staunchly stands by the criticized law, but his Secretary of State, Miguel y Lopez, is said to have resigned.

Travellers arriving here from Puebla with American newspaper correspondents said the Mexican Federal Government would support the Puebla State authorities, even with troops if necessary, to maintain order, which has been threatened as a result of protests against tax laws in that State.

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